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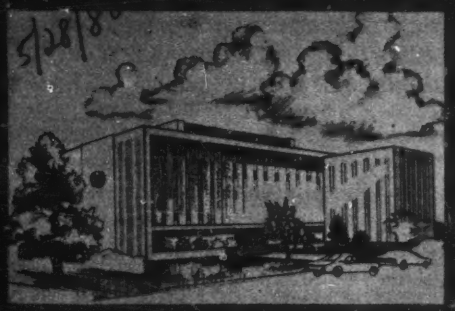

TEXAS LABOR MARKET REVIEW

T.E.C. BUILDING APRIL 1980 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78778

DROP RECORDED IN LABOR FORCE

A modest decline was experienced in the Texas labor force from mid-February to mid-March. The actual drop was 9,400, or 0.1 percent, from 6,319,800 a month ago to 6,310,400. A loss of 34,400 in the State's total employment was responsible for the overall reduction in the labor force. The decrease in total employment amounted to less that 0.6 percent, but came at a time when normally the employment level would be moving upward. Usually the mild spring weather and the approaching Easter season lead to large gains in outdoor activities, particularly construction, and in trade. Although gains were posted in these industries, they were not as substantial as increases experienced during this period in past years.

Total unemployment in Texas climbed over the month from a mid-February level of 325,500 to a mid-March figure of 350,500. The unemployment rate for the State also moved up, rising from 5.2 percent in February to 5.6 percent for March. The current rate for March is the highest recorded for that month since a 5.9 percent mark was posted in 1976. It is also well above the year-ago level of 3.8 percent. The national unemployment rate for March was 6.6 percent, which was slightly below the February rate of 6.8 percent. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.8 percent for Texas and 6.2 percent for the United States during March.

Among the major labor market areas in the State, most experienced employment declines similar to the drop realized by the State. The Galveston-Texas City, Laredo, Texarkana, and Waco SMSA's actually managed to post small gains in their total employment levels over the month. Nineteen of the 25 labor market areas saw their unemployment rates increase from February to March and all of the rates were up from a year ago.

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT CLIMBS

A moderate upturn was evident in total nonagricultural wage and salary employment from February to March. Advances scored in construction and retail trade were primarily responsible for this upturn in wage and salary employment, but growth in these industries was far behind the year-ago increases for the same period. From February to March last year construction and retail trade accounted for 46 percent of the increase in wage and salary employment. In actual numbers the two industries combined were responsible for 28,800 out of 62,200 jobs added from February to March. This year the combined industries accounted for 12,800 additional jobs, or 66 percent of the total increase of 19,200 in wage and salary employment.

SUMMARY OF LABOR FORCE† ESTIMATES

	TOTAL EMPLOYMENT‡			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYED AS % OF LABOR FORCE		
	MAR* 1980	FEB** 1980	MAR** 1979	MAR* 1980	FEB** 1980	MAR** 1979	MAR* 1980	FEB** 1980	MAR** 1979
STATEWIDE	5,959,900	5,994,300	5,923,900	350,500	325,500	231,900	5.6	5.2	3.8
ABILENE	63,240	63,840	64,270	2,410	2,180	1,870	3.7	3.3	2.8
AMARILLO	84,030	85,210	84,770	3,800	3,940	2,490	4.3	4.4	2.9
AUSTIN	241,450	244,050	240,000	8,800	8,400	6,000	3.5	3.3	2.4
BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR-ORANGE	148,600	150,800	154,050	13,200	12,350	9,450	8.2	7.6	5.8
BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN-SAN BENITO	65,250	65,660	66,500	9,060	8,440	5,910	12.2	11.4	8.2
BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION	39,700	39,760	38,650	1,400	1,510	920	3.4	3.7	2.3
CORPUS CHRISTI	133,950	134,150	133,950	9,000	8,300	5,650	6.3	5.8	4.0
DALLAS-FORT WORTH	1,436,600	1,440,300	1,395,600	66,400	63,800	42,900	4.4	4.2	3.0
EL PASO	154,850	155,200	154,950	17,300	15,850	12,450	10.0	9.3	7.4
GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY	76,620	76,510	75,700	5,830	5,430	3,940	7.1	6.6	4.9
HOUSTON	1,379,700	1,393,200	1,364,700	64,700	57,200	40,500	4.5	3.9	2.9
KILLEEN-TEMPLE	59,440	60,220	59,950	4,300	4,050	2,330	6.7	6.3	3.7
LAREDO	29,850	29,710	28,530	5,400	5,140	4,180	15.3	14.7	12.8
LONGVIEW—MARSHALL	61,750	62,990	63,130	4,730	4,370	2,980	7.1	6.5	4.5
LUBBOCK	96,250	96,890	97,240	4,020	4,050	3,130	4.0	4.0	3.1
MCALLEN-PHARR-EDINBURG	78,190	78,870	75,740	12,830	13,560	10,440	14.1	14.7	12.1
MIDLAND	44,640	44,860	43,190	1,890	1,850	1,060	4.1	4.0	2.4
ODESSA	58,340	58,720	56,490	2,270	2,240	1,960	3.7	3.7	3.4
SAN ANGELO	41,170	41,320	39,820	1,670	1,430	1,100	3.9	3.3	2.7
SAN ANTONIO	385,450	389,450	384,300	29,350	26,500	20,250	7.1	6.4	5.0
SHERMAN-DENISON	37,190	37,650	37,730	2,440	2,420	1,600	6.2	6.0	4.1
TEXARKANA	43,610	43,560	44,430	4,710	4,770	3,490	9.7	9.9	7.3
TYLER	60,710	61,730	61,630	3,580	3,510	2,090	5.6	5.4	3.3
WACO	75,470	75,370	74,680	4,580	3,970	2,570	5.7	5.0	3.3
WICHITA FALLS	57,150	57,810	57,260	2,490	2,160	1,730	4.2	3.6	2.9

†Sum of estimated number of total employed and unemployed workers residing in the specified areas.
‡Includes resident wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family workers and domestics in private households, agricultural workers and workers involved in labor-management disputes.
*Preliminary—subject to revision. **Revised.

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Improved weather conditions contributed to the gains which were posted in construction. Reports from various areas of the State indicate that residential building has experienced a substantial slowdown in recent weeks as high interest rates have detered many prospective home buyers. Commercial construction, however, has remained relatively strong since many of the current jobs were initiated before interest rates began to move up sharply. Over this past month, general building construction and highway and street construction were largely responsible for the gain.

Retail trade posted a moderate advance as every sector except automotive dealers and service stations realized an increase. New car sales are also suffering from tight credit policies and most of the loss in automotive dealers and service stations was attributed to this portion of the industry. Gains in food stores and other retail trade contributed to the rise in the retail trade sector.

While construction and retail trade provided most of the advance, other segments of nonmanufacturing also managed to record increases. Services was up moderately with the largest gains in amusement, including motion pictures, and other services and miscellaneous. Seasonal employment and the addition of many temporary workers contributed to the rise in amusement. Hotels and other lodging places were up substantially as seasonal workers were added in preparation for warmer weather and the associated increase in travel.

The transportation, except railroads, portion of transportation and public utilities led the segment to a modest increase. Over 80 percent of the segment's rise occurred in transportation, except railroads, and most of this was attributed to gains in trucking, local and long distance. Normally there occurs a period following the busy holiday season when the flow of goods between manufacturing establishments and trade outlets declines; the resumption of that movement of goods following inventories and the normally slack post-holiday season is largely responsible for the increase in trucking.

Government employment moved upward as Federal employment and local government employment advanced. The most significant gains were reported in other Federal nondefense employment and local administrative government. A slight reduction was noted in state government over the month. Finance, insurance, and real estate made a minimal advance as small gains occurred throughout the industry. Employment in mining declined, making it the only major segment of nonmanufacturing to post a decrease. A labor-management dispute in the petroleum and natural gas sector contributed to the decline.

Manufacturing sustained a loss in employment from February to March largely due to a sizeable decrease in the food and kindred products segment of nondurable goods. Employment in meat products dropped moderately due to small losses throughout the segment. One large firm in the canned and preserved fruits and vegetables portion of the food and kindred products industry underwent a major reduction due to a temporary cutback between vegetable harvests.

Seasonal hiring in the publishing and printing of books led to a small gain in printing and publishing. Firms involved in the publication of school yearbooks were primarily responsible for this increase. Other nondurable goods moved up modestly on the basis of an advance in miscellaneous plastic products.

The durable goods sector of manufacturing made a nominal gain due to upswings in nonelectrical machinery and transportation equipment. The settlement of a labor-management dispute boosted employment in oil field machinery, while business activity took an upturn in the aircraft and parts segment of transportation equipment.

HOURS AND EARNINGS SHOW GAIN

An average production worker in manufacturing worked 42 hours per week during March at an hourly rate of $6.96. This resulted in average weekly earnings of $292.32 during the month. Both average weekly hours (AWH) and average hourly earnings (AHE) were up from February and were far above the March 1979 figures. Seasonal influences contributed to advances in AWH and AHE in malt beverages and printing and publishing. The rising demand in malt beverages led to additional overtime and a large gain in AHE. Yearbook publishers provided the thrust behind the increases in printing and publishing.

Meat products, a portion of food and kindred products, realized a sizeable rise in AHE, but a decline in AWH. A reduction in overtime caused the decline in hours while the remaining amount of overtime was worked by higher-paid production workers which resulted in larger AHE.

In the durable goods sector, primary metal industries posted the most significant advances as a majority of the firms in the industry worked additional overtime at premium wages. Earnings advances were noted in transportation equipment, instruments and related products, and miscellaneous manufacturing industries. All of these segments, however, also had drops in AWH. Wage rate increases were behind the gain in AHE in transportation equipment. Fluctuations among the different sectors of instruments and related products led to the decline in hours and rise in hourly earnings. Two segments of the industry experienced business upswings and additional overtime, while another sector (opthalmic goods) underwent a reduc-

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN TEXAS*

SOURCE: TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION IN COOPERATION WITH THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAR† 1980	FEB 1980	MAR 1979	MAR† 1980	FEB 1980	MAR 1979	MAR† 1980	FEB 1980	MAR 1979
FOR TEXAS									
MANUFACTURING—TOTAL	$292.32	$285.66	$258.52	42.0	41.4	41.1	$6.96	$6.90	$6.29
DURABLE GOODS	289.33	282.99	260.00	42.3	41.8	41.8	6.84	6.77	6.22
LUMBER & WOOD PRODUCTS	203.19	198.22	195.37	39.0	37.9	40.2	5.21	5.23	4.86
FURNITURE & FIXTURES	184.63	183.38	175.03	39.2	39.1	40.8	4.71	4.69	4.29
STONE, CLAY & GLASS PRODS.	278.77	265.79	250.42	43.9	42.8	43.4	6.35	6.21	5.77
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES	384.13	362.53	326.09	43.8	42.6	41.7	8.77	8.51	7.82
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	316.21	296.36	266.68	44.6	41.8	41.7	7.09	7.09	6.40
MACHINERY, EXCEPT ELEC.	303.20	298.08	275.60	43.5	43.2	42.4	6.97	6.90	6.50
OIL FIELD MACHINERY	352.89	349.32	329.44	45.3	44.9	44.7	7.79	7.78	7.37
ELEC. & ELECTRONIC EQUIP.	240.49	240.90	227.39	40.9	40.9	41.8	5.88	5.89	5.44
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	332.09	349.16	306.18	40.4	43.0	41.6	8.22	8.12	7.36
AIRCRAFT & PARTS	370.30	409.37	340.85	41.7	47.0	42.5	8.88	8.71	8.02
INSTR. & RELATED PRODUCTS	210.37	210.86	204.76	37.3	38.2	41.2	5.64	5.52	4.97
MISC. MFG. INDUSTRIES	196.11	192.37	189.03	39.3	39.5	39.3	4.99	4.87	4.81
NONDURABLE GOODS	295.90	289.87	256.88	41.5	41.0	40.2	7.13	7.07	6.39
FOOD & KINDRED PRODUCTS	256.47	250.06	223.91	41.5	41.4	40.2	6.18	6.04	5.57
MEAT PRODUCTS	258.52	257.42	216.79	41.1	42.2	38.1	6.29	6.10	5.69
MALT BEVERAGES	537.04	466.20	479.17	49.0	45.0	43.8	10.96	10.36	10.94
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS	207.10	199.13	182.74	42.7	41.4	39.9	4.85	4.81	4.58
APPRL. & OTHER TEXT PROD.	150.66	148.30	133.88	37.2	36.8	35.7	4.05	4.03	3.75
PAPER & ALLIED PRODUCTS	309.21	306.60	278.46	42.3	42.0	42.0	7.31	7.30	6.63
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	249.85	241.29	221.55	39.1	38.3	38.8	6.39	6.30	5.71
CHEMICALS & ALLIED PRODS.	448.76	442.47	406.08	43.4	43.0	43.2	10.34	10.29	9.40
PETROLEUM & COAL PRODUCTS	626.58	605.16	429.71	50.9	49.2	44.3	12.31	12.30	9.70
PETROLEUM REFINING	672.31	649.76	450.40	51.4	49.6	44.2	13.08	13.10	10.19
LEATHER & LEATHER PRODUCTS	157.82	155.39	137.27	38.4	37.9	37.0	4.11	4.10	3.71
OTHER NONDURABLE GOODS	256.61	250.67	230.11	43.2	42.2	42.3	5.94	5.94	5.44
NONMANUFACTURING									
MINING	386.51	372.67	328.64	46.4	44.9	45.9	8.33	8.30	7.16
OIL & GAS EXTRACTION	389.76	375.81	330.48	46.4	44.9	45.9	8.40	8.37	7.20
METAL & COAL & NONMET. MRNLS., EXC. FUEL	316.48	314.62	280.00	46.0	45.4	44.8	6.88	6.93	6.25
COMMUNICATIONS, EXCEPT U.S. POSTAL SERV.	320.54	321.81	288.75	41.2	41.1	40.9	7.78	7.83	7.06
ELEC., GAS & SAN. SVCS.	326.04	322.98	293.15	41.8	42.0	41.7	7.80	7.69	7.03
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	191.52	189.62	176.40	34.2	33.8	35.0	5.60	5.61	5.04
WHOLESALE TRADE	285.11	281.69	257.04	40.1	39.9	40.1	7.11	7.06	6.41
RETAIL TRADE	152.96	150.70	143.44	31.8	31.2	32.9	4.81	4.83	4.36
GENERAL MDSE. STORES	105.07	101.25	122.18	23.4	22.6	29.8	4.49	4.48	4.10
BANKING	177.38	177.57	163.45	37.5	37.7	38.1	4.73	4.71	4.29
FOR THE MAJOR MARKETS									
AMARILLO									
MANUFACTURING	280.14	279.39	245.02	42.0	41.7	40.3	6.67	6.70	6.08
DURABLE GOODS	289.33	287.43	271.35	42.3	41.9	42.2	6.84	6.86	6.43
NONDURABLE GOODS	271.70	271.41	218.88	41.8	41.5	38.4	6.50	6.54	5.70
AUSTIN									
MANUFACTURING	223.43	219.10	193.58	41.3	40.8	41.1	5.41	5.37	4.71
DURABLE GOODS	228.25	223.45	194.99	41.5	41.0	41.4	5.50	5.45	4.71
NONDURABLE GOODS	200.60	198.80	187.46	40.2	40.0	39.8	4.99	4.97	4.71
BEAUMONT									
MANUFACTURING	472.93	464.54	388.29	44.7	44.2	43.0	10.58	10.51	9.03
DURABLE GOODS	349.92	330.46	309.48	40.5	39.2	41.1	8.64	8.43	7.53
NONDURABLE GOODS	607.38	609.35	433.06	49.3	49.5	44.1	12.32	12.31	9.82
CORPUS CHRISTI									
MANUFACTURING	287.90	287.10	271.74	38.8	39.6	38.6	7.42	7.25	7.04
DURABLE GOODS	252.50	245.06	195.17	36.2	37.3	34.3	6.61	6.57	5.69
NONDURABLE GOODS	311.25	314.83	316.06	39.2	41.1	41.1	7.94	7.66	7.69
DALLAS/FT. WORTH									
MANUFACTURING	265.92	263.86	239.13	41.1	41.1	40.6	6.47	6.42	5.89
DURABLE GOODS	280.06	279.30	253.58	41.8	42.0	41.3	6.70	6.65	6.14
NONDURABLE GOODS	236.61	232.26	210.90	39.5	39.3	39.2	5.99	5.91	5.38
EL PASO									
MANUFACTURING	200.98	200.98	182.67	38.8	38.8	39.2	5.18	5.18	4.66
DURABLE GOODS	234.70	236.35	234.36	35.4	36.7	40.9	6.63	6.44	5.73
NONDURABLE GOODS	189.20	188.02	165.59	40.0	39.5	38.6	4.73	4.76	4.29
GALVESTON									
MANUFACTURING	427.32	410.18	413.47	42.1	41.1	43.8	10.15	9.98	9.44
DURABLE GOODS	383.36	338.30	353.32	41.4	38.4	44.0	9.26	8.81	8.03
NONDURABLE GOODS	449.65	445.20	437.44	42.5	42.4	43.7	10.58	10.50	10.01
HOUSTON									
MANUFACTURING	351.48	346.33	325.07	43.5	43.4	43.4	8.08	7.98	7.49
DURABLE GOODS	337.65	331.78	304.99	43.4	43.2	43.2	7.78	7.68	7.06
NONDURABLE GOODS	376.24	372.30	358.72	43.8	43.8	43.8	8.59	8.50	8.19
LUBBOCK									
MANUFACTURING	214.80	214.12	199.07	40.0	39.8	41.3	5.37	5.38	4.82
DURABLE GOODS	206.80	200.98	187.86	38.8	38.2	40.4	5.33	5.26	4.65
NONDURABLE GOODS	231.06	241.92	222.40	42.4	43.2	43.1	5.45	5.60	5.16
SAN ANTONIO									
MANUFACTURING	210.92	204.91	185.72	42.1	40.9	40.2	5.01	5.01	4.62
DURABLE GOODS	221.00	216.00	191.52	42.5	41.3	39.9	5.20	5.23	4.80
NONDURABLE GOODS	201.06	193.11	180.18	41.8	40.4	40.4	4.81	4.78	4.46
WACO									
MANUFACTURING	232.80	226.40	215.67	38.8	38.7	39.5	6.00	5.85	5.46
DURABLE GOODS	239.00	230.87	230.29	39.9	39.6	42.1	5.99	5.83	5.47
NONDURABLE GOODS	224.77	220.71	199.84	37.4	37.6	36.6	6.01	5.87	5.46
WICHITA FALLS									
MANUFACTURING	257.75	254.70	224.24	40.4	40.3	39.9	6.38	6.32	5.62
DURABLE GOODS	273.62	269.43	238.50	40.9	40.7	40.7	6.69	6.62	5.86
NONDURABLE GOODS	211.38	209.97	180.59	39.0	39.1	38.1	5.42	5.37	4.74

*Figures cover Production Workers in Manufacturing and Mining industries only and Nonsupervisory Employees in other industry divisions. Earnings averages include premium pay for overtime, holidays, and for late-shift work. †Preliminary—subject to revisions upon receipt of additional reports.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY† ESTIMATES—TEXAS

INDUSTRY	MAR* 1980	FEB** 1980	MAR** 1979	CHANGE FROM FEB 1980	CHANGE FROM MAR 1979
‡TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	5,741,700	5,723,300	5,509,700	18,400	232,000
MANUFACTURING	1,036,100	1,036,900	1,006,600	— 800	29,500
DURABLE GOODS	615,700	615,500	590,000	200	25,700
LUMBER & WOOD PRODUCTS	37,000	37,400	37,300	— 400	— 300
LOGGING CAMPS, SAWMILLS, PLANING MILLS	8,200	8,300	8,500	— 100	— 300
FURNITURE & FIXTURES	18,800	18,800	18,900	0	— 100
STONE, CLAY & GLASS PRODUCTS	45,700	46,000	44,700	— 300	1,000
CONCRETE, GYPSUM & PLASTER PRODUCTS	19,500	19,300	18,300	200	1,200
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES	47,400	47,100	45,100	300	2,300
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	94,800	95,000	90,800	— 200	4,000
FABRICATED STRUCTURAL METAL PRODUCTS	50,200	50,000	47,500	200	2,700
MACHINERY, EXCEPT ELECTRICAL	155,600	154,800	147,900	800	7,700
OIL FIELD MACHINERY	61,900	61,200	58,800	700	3,100
ELECTRIC & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT	103,700	104,000	97,500	— 300	6,200
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	81,100	80,700	78,400	400	2,700
AIRCRAFT & PARTS	48,900	48,400	43,400	500	5,500
INSTRUMENTS & RELATED PRODUCTS	18,900	18,900	17,700	0	1,200
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	12,700	12,800	11,700	— 100	1,000
NONDURABLE GOODS	420,400	421,400	416,600	— 1,000	3,800
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS	96,800	98,800	96,600	— 2,000	200
MEAT PRODUCTS	25,700	26,300	25,300	— 600	400
DAIRY PRODUCTS	5,300	5,300	5,300	0	0
BAKERY PRODUCTS	11,700	11,700	10,800	0	900
MALT BEVERAGES	3,600	3,500	3,400	100	200
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS	6,200	6,100	5,900	100	300
APPAREL & OTHER FINISHED TEXTILE PRODUCTS	76,200	76,200	74,700	0	1,500
PAPER & ALLIED PRODUCTS	22,500	22,600	21,700	— 100	800
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	61,700	61,300	58,500	400	3,200
NEWSPAPER, PERIODICALS, BOOKS & MISC. PUBL	32,900	32,600	31,000	300	1,900
CHEMICALS & ALLIED PRODUCTS	78,600	78,800	78,200	— 200	400
PETROLEUM & COAL PRODUCTS	39,100	39,000	42,400	100	— 3,300
PETROLEUM REFINING	35,200	35,100	38,500	100	— 3,300
LEATHER & LEATHER PRODUCTS	7,800	7,600	7,700	200	100
OTHER NONDURABLE GOODS	31,500	31,000	30,900	500	600
TOTAL NONMANUFACTURING	4,705,600	4,686,400	4,503,100	19,200	202,500
MINING	211,800	212,300	194,800	— 500	17,000
OIL & GAS EXTRACTION	202,100	202,600	186,100	— 500	16,000
METAL & COAL & NONMET. MRNLS., EXC. FUEL	9,700	9,700	8,700	0	1,000
CONSTRUCTION	431,500	426,500	404,900	5,000	26,600
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	380,600	359,000	344,500	1,600	16,100
RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION	31,700	31,600	31,100	100	600
TRANSPORTATION, EXCEPT RAILROADS	180,300	179,000	170,000	1,300	10,300
TRANSPORTATION BY AIR	35,900	35,900	32,600	0	3,300
COMMUNICATION, EXC. U.S. POSTAL SERVICE	79,400	79,300	79,100	100	300
ELECTRIC, GAS & SANITARY SERVICES	69,200	69,100	64,300	100	4,900
ELECTRIC SERVICES	37,300	37,100	33,800	200	3,500
GAS PRODUCTION & DISTRIBUTION	27,200	27,300	26,500	— 100	700
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	1,384,600	1,376,200	1,348,700	8,400	35,900
WHOLESALE TRADE	406,400	405,800	390,300	600	16,100
RETAIL TRADE	978,200	970,400	958,400	7,800	19,800
BUILDING MATERIALS & GARDEN SUPPLIES	45,600	45,400	43,300	200	2,300
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES	141,100	140,600	140,500	500	600
FOOD STORES	162,500	160,900	157,600	1,600	4,900
AUTOMOTIVE DEALERS & SERVICE STATIONS	122,100	123,400	126,600	— 1,300	— 4,500
APPAREL & ACCESSORY STORES	74,800	74,200	71,700	600	3,100
OTHER RETAIL TRADE	432,100	425,900	418,700	6,200	13,400
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	325,400	325,100	306,900	300	18,500
BANKING	85,500	85,100	79,800	400	5,700
INSURANCE CARRIERS, AGENTS & BROKERS	113,300	113,100	108,600	200	4,700
OTHER FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	126,600	126,900	118,500	— 300	8,100
SERVICES	995,600	992,700	942,100	2,900	53,500
HOTELS & OTHER LODGING PLACES	57,600	56,700	56,600	900	1,000
PERSONAL SERVICES	63,400	64,000	64,000	— 600	— 600
BUSINESS & REPAIR SERVICES	254,000	253,700	236,800	300	17,200
AMUSEMENT, INCLUDING MOTION PICTURES	45,200	43,900	40,400	1,300	4,800
HEALTH SERVICES	266,300	266,400	254,500	— 100	11,800
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	52,600	52,700	50,100	— 100	2,500
OTHER SERVICES & MISCELLANEOUS	256,500	255,300	239,700	1,200	16,800
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	996,100	994,600	961,200	1,500	34,900
TOTAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	162,500	161,900	161,900	600	600
TOTAL STATE GOVERNMENT	198,600	199,400	204,200	— 800	— 5,600
TOTAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT	635,000	633,300	595,100	1,700	39,900
TOTAL MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION WORKERS	713,100	715,700	701,200	— 2,600	11,900
DURABLE GOODS	417,500	418,600	404,000	— 1,100	13,500
NONDURABLE GOODS	295,600	297,100	297,200	— 1,500	— 1,600

†Estimated number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas without reference to place of residence of workers. ‡Estimates of TEC in cooperation with Bureau of Labor Statistics and Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. *Preliminary—subject to revision. **Revised.

tion in business activity. The shifts in hours and earnings in miscellaneous manufacturing were attributed to fluctuations in overtime hours.

Among the nonmanufacturing industries, the most substantial gain in AHE was reported in electric, gas, and sanitary services. A reduction in business activity in gas production and distribution led to decreased hiring of entry-level production workers in the segment. Hours declined slightly with the reduction in business, but wages rose modestly due to the lack of additional lower-paid workers.

ADVANCES NOTED IN FARM EMPLOYMENT

Total employment in agriculture rose from 165,400 in February to 178,200 at mid-March. Seasonal employment climbed from 48,230 a year ago to 49,890 at mid-month. Cotton activities employed 7,570 worker this month compared to 7,510 a year ago. Cotton planting was underway in South Texas over the month.

Seasonal workers involved in vegetable activities numbered 10,540, well above the year-ago figure of 9,030. A large supply of carrots, cabbage, and lettuce was evident in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The citrus harvest was still underway in the Lower Valley also.

Feed and grain activities provided work for 12,010 seasonal employees, slightly fewer than were employed during the same period last year. Sorghum planting was ahead of the year-ago pace. Peach trees were in full bloom in the eastern part of the State and pecan trees were beginning to bud. Pastures across most of the State were in need of moisture as the supplemental feeding of livestock continued in many localities.